

SENATE NO. 21

Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution

INCREASING THE TERM OF THE GENERAL COURT FROM TWO TO FOUR YEAR

A majority of all the members elected to the Senate and of Representatives, in joint session, hereby declares it to be expedient to alter the Constitution by the adoption of the following Article of Amendment, to the end that it may become a part of the Constitution [if similarly agreed to in a joint session of General Court and approved by the people at the state next following]:

ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

1 Article LXIV of the Amendments to the Constitution amended by Article LXXX and Article LXXII
2 Amendments, is hereby annulled, and the following is adopted in place thereof: -SECTION 1.
3 Article LXIV. The Governor, lieutenant governor, secretary, treasurer and receiver-general,
4 attorney general, auditor, senators, and representatives shall be elected quadrennially, and
5 counselors shall be elected biennially. The terms the governor and lieutenant-governor shall begin
6 at noon Thursday next following the first Wednesday in January succeeding their election and shall
7 end at noon on the Thursday following the first Wednesday in January in the fifth year following
8 their election. If the governor-elect shall have died before the qualification of the lieutenant-
9 governor-elect, the lieutenant- governor-elect upon qualification shall become governor. If both the
10 governor-elect and the lieutenant-governor-elect shall have died, both said offices shall be deemed
11 vacant and the provisions of Article LV of the Amendments to the Constitution shall apply. The

12 terms of the secretary, treasurer and receiver-general, attorney-general, and auditor shall begin with
13 the third Wednesday in January succeeding their election and shall extend to the third Wednesday
14 in January in the fifth year following their election and until their successors are chosen and
15 qualified. The terms of the councilors shall begin at noon on the Thursday next following the first
16 Wednesday in January succeeding their election and shall end at noon on the Thursday next
17 following the first Wednesday in January in the third year following their election. The terms of the
18 senators and representatives shall begin with the first Wednesday in January succeeding their
19 election and shall extend to the first Wednesday in January in the fifth year following their election
20 and until their successors are chosen and qualified.

21 SECTION 2. The general court shall assemble every year on the first Wednesday in January.

22 SECTION 3. The first election to which this article shall apply shall be held on the Tuesday next
23 after the first Monday in November in the year two thousand and two, and thereafter elections for
24 the choice of governor, lieutenant-governor, auditor, secretary, treasurer and receiver-general,
25 attorney-general, auditor, senators, and representatives shall be held quadrennially on the Tuesday
26 next after the first Monday in November and elections for the choice of councilors shall be held
27 biennially on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November.